

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please correct the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 3 as follows:

A first anaerobic basin, tank, zone or region 10 is provided to preferably receive all of the influent wastewater from the region 4 through flow conduit 6. However, in certain wastewater treatment processes a portion of the influent wastewater may be directed to other regions for cooperate treatments or for alternative reasons. Also preferably, the flow of wastewater into the region 10 is continuous and the first anaerobic region 10 is constructed such that the influent wastewater generally enters the first anaerobic region 10 on one side and flows to the other side. Alternatively, or in addition, it is foreseen that the influent wastewater may enter from the top or bottom and exit the opposite or any alternative flow configuration to provide a pass through flow pattern. The anaerobic region 10 is sized to handle an expected average volume of influent wastewater and this in combination with the flow path allows design of the first anaerobic region 10 such that the influent wastewater flows through the first anaerobic region with a preselected calculated and preferred solids residence time therein. For example, a preferred solids retention for the first anaerobic region 10 is between 2000 and 4000 milligrams per liter

of biomass solids, although it is foreseen that this may be varied according to site and operational circumstances. ~~a~~ A hydraulic retention time within the first anaerobic region 10 is preferably between about 0.5 and 2.0 hours. The anaerobic region 10 (as with the other regions discussed herein) may be clearly defined by the structure such as a tank or basin or may be simply a part of a flow channel through which the water flows and wherein different regions are defined by the process that occurs in the regions. Likewise, conduits may be specific pipes or other flow directing structure such as overflow weirs and the like.

Please correct the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 23 as follows:

It is foreseen under the scope of the invention that a fraction of the influent wastewater may be directed directly to the second anaerobic region or may be mixed with the slip stream from the first anaerobic region to the second anaerobic region. Preferably, the fraction of wastewater directed to the second anaerobic region without passing through the first anaerobic region would be less than about 10 percent of the total influent wastewater flow. ~~the~~ The mixture of flows to the second anaerobic region in this manner may be utilized to control the

detention time in the second anaerobic region so as to improve volatile short chain fatty acid production. ~~the~~ The addition of influent waste water to the second anaerobic region without passing through the first anaerobic region assists in elutriating the volatile short chain fatty acids from the second anaerobic region in this manner, while not decreasing the solids retention time.